

## Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00

RSC-01 HEW-08 INSE-00 SCA-01 VO-03 PPT-02 DRC-01 /061 W

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R 132102Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4330

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GUATEMALA 5019

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CI, PINS, CPAB

SUBJECT: INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION - ENGLISH LITERACY  
REQUIREMENT FOR U.S. CITIZENSHIP

REF: STATE 191781

REFERENCE THE DEPARTMENT'S REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON LANGUAGE  
REQUIREMENTS FOR NATURALIZATION, GUATEMALAN LAW SPECIFICALLY STATES  
THAT ALL APPLICANTS FOR NATURALIZATION MUST COMPREHEND THE SPANISH  
LANGUAGE. - A TRANSLATION OF CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE 34, PART 3 OF THE  
NATIONALITY LAW (DECREE NUMBER 1613 OF 1966) FOLLOWS:

THE APPLICANT WILL SUBMIT TO AN EXAMINATION OF THE SPANISH LANGUAGE  
AND OF CIVIL INSTRUCTION. TO THIS END, THE DEPARTMENTAL GOVERNOR  
WILL DESIGNATE AN EXAMINING BOARD COMPOSED OF THREE TEACHERS OF  
PRIMARY EDUCATION, WHO WILL EARN Q5 QUETZALES CASH AS A FEE, WHICH  
THE INTERESTED PARTY WILL DEPOSIT PREVIOUSLY. THE LANGUAGE EXAMINA-  
TION WILL BE OF A PRACTICAL CHARACTER, TOWARD THE END OF ESTABLISH-  
ING IF THE INDIVIDUAL UNDERSTANDS, SPEAKS, AND WRITES SPANISH; AND  
THAT OF CIVIL INSTRUCTION WILL DEAL WITH ELEMENTARY GEOGRAPHY AND  
HISTORY OF CENTRAL AMERICA AND GENERAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE CONSTITUTION  
OF THE REPUBLIC.

THE EMBASSY FURTHER NOTES THAT ALL OFFICIAL FORMS TO BE COMPLETED BY  
THE APPLICANT ARE PRINTED IN THE SPANISH LANGUAGE. ANY DOCUMENTS  
SUBMITTED BY THE APPLICANT TO SUBSTANTIATE HIS CLAIM FOR CITIZENSHIP  
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MUST BE IN THE SPANISH LANGUAGE OR BE A SWORN TRANSLATION THEREOF.

ADDITIONALLY, BILINGUAL ASSISTANCE IS NOT PROVIDED BY THE GUATEMALAN  
GOVERNMENT TO ASSIST APPLICANTS IN COMPLETING THE REQUIRED FORMS.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LAW, CITIZENSHIP ACQUISITION, OFFICIAL LANGUAGE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 SEP 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** papenddr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974GUATEM05019  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** STATE 191781  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION - ENGLISH LITERACY REQUIREMENT FOR U.S. CITIZENSHIP  
**TAGS:** PINS, CPAS, CI  
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